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POLICY

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Blue Tongue Vaccination

Report Categories:

Policy and Program Announcements

Livestock and Products

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

The Czech Republic cancels after more than three years a compulsory Blue Tongue vaccination.

General Information:**Policy:**

Vaccination against Blue Tongue disease in the Czech Republic becomes voluntary as of April 28, 2011, as announced by the State Veterinary Administration. Until this decision, the vaccination was compulsory in the Czech Republic for more than three years. The Czech Ministry of Agriculture followed the expert viewpoint of the EU veterinary bodies that the Blue Tongue vaccination should be conducted for at least three years to have an effect. The Ministry was even able to fund a spring vaccination at the beginning of a fourth year.

Some of the EU member states were already declared Blue Tongue free and they may require certification of vaccination from the others. Therefore the voluntary Blue Tongue vaccination is allowed in the Czech Republic, in order not to harm those, who trade with Blue Tongue free countries.

The Czech Republic will be eligible to apply for the Blue Tongue free status at the beginning of October this year.